

Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC HU (SEREGI, LASZLO)

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM: NOMINATION OF LASZLO SEREGI
FOR AN IV GRANT

REF: BUDAPEST 0412

1. THIS THE FOURTH NOMINATION AND PROGRAM PROPOSAL
FROM THE SERIES OF SEVEN INDIVIDUAL IV GRANT NOMINATIONS
SUBMITTED BY THE KKI. PREVIOUSLY NOMINATIONS WERE SUB-
MITTED FOR DRS. ERNST, RIESZ AND BORSANYI. THE REMAINING
THREE PROPOSALS ARE IN PREPARATION AND WILL BE SENT
SHORTLY.

2. PART I - NOMINATION - JUSTIFICATION

NAME: LASZLO SEREGI.

TYPE OF GRANT: CODE 210, 30-DAY INDIVIDUAL IV GRANT.

AVAILABILITY DATES: MAY 2 THROUGH MAY 31.

JUSTIFICATION: NOMINATED BY THE HUNGARIAN INSTITUTE
OF CULTURAL RELATIONS. KEY CONTACT OF EMBASSY CULTURAL
SECTION.

POST OBJECTIVES: PROPOSED GRANT SUPPORTS 1976 CPP OBJECTIVES.

TENTATIVE VISA ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION: CONSULAR
SECTION HAS NOTHING ON RECORD TO INDICATE INELIGIBILITY.

PART II. BIOGRAPHIC DATA.

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DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: HUNGARY, 1929.

MALE, MARRIED, NO CHILDREN.
PROFESSIONAL TRAINING: SCHOOL OF GRAPHIC AND INDUSTRIAL
ARTS, BUDAPEST.
PRESENT POSITION: CHIEF CHOREOGRAPHER, BALLET COMPANY
OF HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA HOUSE.
PAST POSITIONS: DANCER AND CHOREOGRAPHER FOR THE
NATIONAL FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE.
LANGUAGES: ENGLISH, REASONABLY FLUENT, GERMAN.
TRAVEL: WESTERN EUROPE.
ADDRESS: 1025 BUDAPEST, PENTELEI MOLNAR U. 8.
EMERGENCY ADDRESS: AS ABOVE.
PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND: MR. SEREGI HAS CHOREOGRAPHED
SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL MAJOR BALLETS FOR THE HUNGARIAN
STATE OPERA HOUSE, INCLUDING "SPARTACUS", HIS FIRST
BIG SUCCESS IN 1968; "THE WOODEN PRINCE" AND "THE
MIRACULOUS MANDARIN" WHICH WERE DONE IN HONOR OF THE
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF BELA BARTOK IN 1970,
AND "SYLVIA" IN 1972.

HE HAS WON SEVERAL AWARDS INCLUDING THE PRESTIGIOUS
ERKEL PRIZE, AND IN 1973 WAS AWARDED THE TITLE
"MERITORIOUS ARTIST OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC".

MR. SEREGI HAS BEEN INVITED TO WESTERN EUROPE A
NUMBER OF TIMES AS GUEST CHOREOGRAPHER, AND HAS CHOREO-
GRAPHED BALLETS AT THE OPERA HOUSES IN VIENNA, MUNICH,
AND ZURICH.

HE HAS NEVER BEEN IN THE UNITED STATES.

PART II - PROGRAMMING INFORMATION.

THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE
AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MR. SEREGI TO GAIN FIRST HAND KNOW-
LEDGE OF AMERICAN DANCE IN ALL ITS ASPECTS, TO ESTABLISH
CONTACT AND EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH CHOREOGRAPHERS AND
DIRECTORS OF DANCE COMPANIES, AND TO BECOME ACQUAINTED
WITH AMERICAN SOCIETY PARTICULARLY ITS CULTURAL AND
ARTISTIC LIFE. MR. SEREGI ALSO PLANS TO CHOREOGRAPH
A BALLET FOR THE HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA HOUSE BASED ON
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THE MUSIC OF LEONARD BERNSTEIN. HE WOULD LIKE TO CARRY
OUT THE PRELIMINARY PLANS AND TALKS NECESSARY FOR THIS
TASK WHILE IN THE UNITED STATES.

MR. SEREGI'S PROGRAM SHOULD INCLUDE VISITS TO
WASHINGTON, NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO AND ONE OTHER CITY
WITH A MAJOR BALLET COMPANY. HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT
AND HAVE CONTACT WITH THE NEW YORK CITY BALLET, THE

AMERICAN BALLET THEATER, THE MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY AS WELL AS THE ALVIN ALLEY AND ALWIN NIKOLAIS DANCE COMPANIES AND THE SAN FRANCISCO BALLET. HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH CHOREOGRAPHERS, VISIT THE COMPANIES, WATCH REHEARSALS AND ATTEND PERFORMANCES.

THE PROGRAMMING AGENCY IN WASHINGTON IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT MR. WALTER TERRY, DANCE CRITIC OF THE SATURDAY REVIEW FOR CONSULTATION AND ADVICE ON THE DETAILS OF MR. SEREGI'S PROGRAM. MR. TERRY WAS IN BUDAPEST AS A VOLUNTEER SPEAKER IN FEBRUARY 1976. DURING HIS VISIT, MR. SEREGI'S PROGRAM WAS DISCUSSED WITH HIM IN DETAIL, AND HE AGREED HELP WORK OUT EXACT SCHEDULES AND APPOINTMENTS BASED ON HIS INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT EACH BALLET COMPANY IS PERFORMING, ETC. AT A GIVEN TIME AS WELL AS HIS CONTACTS WITH LEADERS OF THE AMERICAN DANCE WORLD.

3. MR. SEREGI SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH AND IS AN EXPERIENCED INTERNATIONAL TRAVELER. ACCORDINGLY HE PREFERS TO CARRY OUT HIS PROGRAM WITHOUT THE AID OF AN ESCORT- INTERPRETER. MCAULIFFE

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